



School Board Briefing/Proposed Action Report

Informational (no action required by Board) **Action Report** (Board will be required to take action)

DATE: August 3, 2015
FROM: Dr. Larry Nyland, Superintendent
LEAD STAFF: Shauna Heath, Executive Director, Curriculum and Instruction, slheath@seattleschools.org; Stephen Martin, Supervisor, Highly Capable Services and Advanced Learning Programs, sbmartin@seattleschools.org

I. TITLE

Highly Capable Students Program Annual Plan

For Introduction: August 19, 2015

For Action: September ~~23~~⁹, 2015

II. WHY BOARD ACTION IS NECESSARY

Board approval to submit this grant application is required before the District will be allowed to receive revenues from the State in support of the District's Highly Capable students. Additionally, Policy No. 6114, Gifts, Grants, Donations & Fundraising Proceeds, requires Board approval of the acceptance of all grants over \$250,000.

III. FISCAL IMPACT/REVENUE SOURCE

Fiscal impact to this action is anticipated to be state revenues of \$498,377, based on projected enrollment. This revenue is anticipated in Fiscal Year 2016.

The revenue source for this motion is N/A.

Expenditure: One-time Annual Other Source

IV. POLICY IMPLICATION

Policy No. 2190, Highly Capable Services & Advanced Learning Programs, requires the submission of this grant application. Further, Policy No. 6114, Gifts, Grants, Donations & Fundraising Proceeds, requires Board approval of the acceptance of grant funds over \$250,000.

V. RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move that the Board approve the Highly Capable Students Program Annual Plan as submitted to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction for school year 2015-16 to support Highly Capable Services and the District's gifted eligibility identification process, and that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to apply for the grant, and to accept and use these grant funds, with any minor additions, deletions, or modifications deemed necessary by the Superintendent.

VI. BOARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

This motion was discussed at the Curriculum & Instruction Policy Committee meeting on August 10, 2015. The Committee reviewed the motion and moved the item forward to the full Board with a recommendation for approval.

VII. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Highly Capable Services and SPS procedures for identifying and serving highly gifted students are regularly reviewed by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) for compliance with WAC 392-170. The most recent Consolidated Program Review (March 2015) found Advanced Learning to be fully compliant with the relevant WACs and RCWs.

VIII. STATEMENT OF ISSUE

Highly Capable Students Program Annual Plan: Annual approval of the submission of the grant application provides on-going support for the Highly Capable Services for grades K-12 and SPS gifted eligibility identification process for grades K-12. Seattle Public Schools has received the Highly Capable Students Program State Grant since its inception, with services having been in existence for over 30 years. Money apportioned is based on 2.314% of the District's annualized student full-time equivalent (AFTE). This is an annual grant application which the Board has consistently approved. The deadline for submission of the Annual Plan to OSPI is September 1. An amended application will be submitted after September 18 including any revisions and the required meeting minutes showing Board approval (per Kristina Johnstone, OSPI Highly Capable Program Supervisor), should the Board approve this motion.

Students identified as academically highly gifted are a nationally recognized group of special needs learners who require significant curricular modifications in order to achieve educational benefit. The grant supports District activities for identifying eligible students and for appropriately serving them as Seattle Public School students.

Public interest in the program remains high, enrollment has increased, and providing sufficient capacity for serving all eligible students is a present and continuing challenge.

IX. ALTERNATIVES

Not requesting State fiscal support for our Advanced Learning programs is not recommended because we have no alternative funding to replace this revenue and the services it supports.

X. RESEARCH AND DATA SOURCES / BENCHMARKS

- Robinson, Ann, Shore, Bruce M., and Enersen, Donna L. Best Practices in Gifted Education: An Evidence-Based Guide, Prufrock Press, Inc. 2007.
- Sternberg, Robert E., and Davis, Janet E. Conceptions of Giftedness. Cambridge University Press, 2005.
- Rogers, Karen A., Reforming Gifted Education: Matching the Program to the Child. Great Potential Press. 2002.

XI. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Application submitted:	September 1, 2015
Funds available:	November 1, 2015
Program ends:	August 31, 2016

The Highly Capable Student Programs Grant application and the management of programs are regularly discussed with representatives of Highly Capable Advisory Committee authorized by the Superintendent. The committee meets monthly during the school year, and includes parents, teachers, and administrators.

XII. ATTACHMENTS

- [OSPI iGrant application Highly Capable Students Program Annual Plan 2015-16](#)